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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION II

DATE: **AUG 28 1992**

SUBJECT: Addendum to the Removal Site Evaluation for Vanguard Vinyl  
Siding, Inc., Gloucester City, New Jersey

FROM: Nick Magriples, On-Scene Coordinator *N. Magriples*  
Technical Support Section

TO: File

The Removal Site Evaluation (RSE) for Vanguard Vinyl Siding, Inc., dated June 17, 1992 states on page seven that polyvinyl chloride (PVC) is very difficult to ignite and will not burn freely unless there is a supporting flame.

It should be noted that during field hazard categorization tests conducted by the Technical Support Section on April 16, 1992, the material which was believed to be PVC at that time and was later confirmed to be so through laboratory analysis, did not itself ignite as tested. However, within seconds, the material melted and copious amounts of smoke and organic vapors were emitted. These vapors, which were found to be present at greater than 1,000 parts per million as measured by an Organic Vapor Analyzer (OVA), did ignite.

In conclusion, thermal degradation of PVC without ignition is sufficient to result in a release of harmful vapors.

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